

of Tabanids, the following were caught in the conservatory attached to my house at Ashurst: *Chrysops caecutiens* (Linn.) (1 specimen) and *Tabanus autumnalis* (Linn.) (3 specimens). *Volucella zonaria* (Poda). This large hoverfly species provides another good example of warning colouration, having black and yellow bands on the abdomen which give it a wasp-like appearance. Three individuals were collected in this period, all in or near Southampton, including one which was brought to me in a matchbox by a friend who was convinced that it was capable of stinging him. Another interesting example of the efficiency of this mimicry of bees and wasps by hoverflies was seen recently in an advertisement, shown many times on television, which encouraged viewers to save with a particular building society or bank (I forget which). It purported to show a bee on a flower, industriously collecting and saving nectar and pollen. In fact, unknown to the creators of the advertisement, the picture was not of a bee, but of a rather less exemplary hoverfly. However, most of the viewers were doubtless also deceived.

HIPPOBOSCIDAE

Hippoboscidae (Specialised bloodsucking dipteran parasites of birds and mammals.)

The Forest Fly, *Hippobosca equina* (Linn.), was observed frequently on New Forest ponies in July and August, and could be obtained by sweeping the ground vegetation in infested areas (or picked from our dog after walking in such areas). Of the avian parasites, *Ornithomyia avicularia* (Linn.) was frequently observed during bird-ringing operations in summer; it was found on a wide range of species, including Green Woodpecker, Tawny Owl and Blackcap. The more highly specialised, flightless *Stenopteryx hirundinis* (Linn.) was obtained from House Martins on several occasions. These parasites of birds are mentioned here because, although common and widespread, they are unlikely to be encountered by the entomologist unless he or she handles wild birds or collects from birds' nests.

THE CLOUDED YELLOW: *COLIAS CROCEUS* GEOF. IN CORNWALL. — On 27th August 1980, while walking behind the cliff-tops at Landsend, I disturbed into flight a number of these butterflies which were lying low in dull weather conditions. — BRIAN CHESNEY, 83, Tylecroft Road, Norbury, London SW16 4BJ.

THE WHITE-SPECK WAINSCOT: *MYTHIMNA ALBIPUNCTA* D. & S. IN HAMPSHIRE. — The autumn of 1980 has been very poor for migrant lepidoptera, with even the commoner migrant species appearing in very small numbers. It was therefore a pleasant surprise when I took a specimen of *albipuncta* at m.v. at Southsea on 23rd September. — Dr. J. R. LANGMAID, 38, Cumberland Court, Festing Road, Southsea, Hants.